Small Arms



MISSION

Reassure, deter, and if necessary, compel adversaries by enabling individuals and small units to engage targets with accurate, lethal, direct fire.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

M16A2 Rifle: A lightweight, air-cooled, gas-operated rifle. An improved version of the M16A1, the M16A2 incorporates improvements in iron sight, pistol grip, stock, and overall combat effectiveness. Accuracy is improved by incorporating an improved muzzle compensator, three-round burst control, and a heavier barrel; and by using the heavier North Atlantic Treaty Organization standard ammunition, which is also fired by the squad automatic weapon. M16A4 Rifle: An M16A2 rifle with a flat-top upper receiver accessory rail and a detachable handle/ rear aperture sight assembly. M4 Carbine: A compact version of the M16A2 rifle, with a collapsible stock, a flat-top upper receiver accessory rail, and a detachable handle/rear aperture sight assembly. With the M4, the individual soldier operating in close quarters can engage targets at extended range with accurate, lethal fire. It achieves over 85% commonality with the M16A2 rifle and will replace all .45 caliber M3 submachine guns, selected M9 pistols, and M16 series rifles. Modular Weapon System (MWS): The MWS is a system of accessory rails mounted in place of the forward hand guards on M16A4 rifles and M4 carbines. These permit the no-tools, field attachment of day or night sights, aiming lights, flashlights, ancillary weapons, and other accessories, based upon mission specific requirements. M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW): The M249 is a lightweight, gas-operated, one-man-portable automatic weapon capable of delivering a large volume of effective fire at ranges up to 800 meters. Two M249s are issued per infantry squad. It is scheduled to replace the M60 7.62 mm medium machine gun in certain units. M240B Medium Machine Gun: The M240B is a ground-mounted, gas-operated, crew-served machine gun. This highly reliable 7.62 mm machine gun delivers more energy to the target than the smaller caliber M249 SAW. It will be issued to infantry, armor, combat engineer, and special force units that require medium support fires and will replace the ground-mounted M60 series machine guns currently in use. MK19-3 40 mm Grenade Machine Gun: A self-powered, air-cooled, belt-fed, blowback-operated weapon, the MK19-3, is designed to deliver accurate, intense, and decisive firepower against enemy personnel and lightly armored vehicles. It is scheduled to replace selected M2 heavy machine guns in selected units and will be the primary suppressive weapon for combat support and combat service support units. The MK19-3 is mounted on the HMMWV, M113 FOV, five-ton trucks, and selected M88A1 recovery vehicles.

	M4	M16A2/A4	M249	M240B	MK19-3
Caliber:	5.56 mm	5.56 mm	5.56 mm	7.62 mm	40 mm
Weight:	*7.5 lb	*8.8 lb	16.5 lb	27.6 lb	72.5 lb
Max Effective					
Range:	600m at	800m/600m at	1000m at	1,800m at	2,200m at
	500m pt	550m pt	600m pt	800m pt	
(at: area target, pt: point target.) *Loaded weight with sling and one magazine.					

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Numerous foreign countries purchase U.S. small arms.

PROGRAM STATUS

MWS: FY98 Materiel release. 1QFY99 First unit equipped.

M16A2: FY98 Completed Army procurement.

M16A4: In production to fulfill modular rifle requirements.

M4: In production.

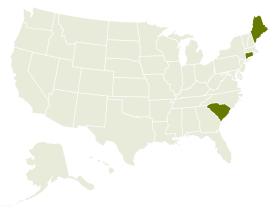
PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

FY00 Continue M249 SAW production.

PRIME CONTRACTORS

M4 Carbine and M16A4 Rifle: Colt's Manufacturing (Hartford, CT)

M16A2, M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, and M240B Medium Machine Gun: FN Manufacturing (Columbia, SC) MK19-3 Grenade Machine Gun: Saco Defense (Saco, ME)



* See appendix for list of subcontractors

